

In an apparatus for recording information to an optical recording medium, a laser beam is irradiated to and reflected from the medium. A photodetector detects the light quantity of the irradiated or reflected light beam, and the detected laser beam is subjected to the signal processing. Then, a sampler samples it at the timing of a sampling pulse supplied from a sampling pulse generator. Then, a controller controls the laser power according to the sampled laser beam. A pulse timing setting unit sets and adjusts the timing of the sampling pulse by taking into account the response time in the propagation path of the laser beam from the start of the irradiation to the sampling. Thus, the laser power can be monitored correctly, and it can be optimized so as to stably and reliably reproduce an address signal and to generate a servo signal while data is recorded.